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Attorney Docket No. 04166/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Shoichi NOMURA et al
Serial No. : 10/802,136
Filed : March 17, 2004
For : IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD,
IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,
IMAGE PROCESSING PROGRAM,
AND IMAGE READING APPARATUS
Art Unit : 2622
Examiner :

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R :

Submitted herewith are copies of the documents identified on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner return an initialed copy of the attached Form PTO/SB/08A to confirm that the documents listed therein have been considered and made of record.

The three documents submitted herewith are identified near the bottom of page 3 of the present specification, and are discussed in the introductory portion of the present specification.

Commercially available English language Abstracts are provided for each of the Japanese documents submitted herewith.

It is requested that the Examiner consider the documents submitted herewith and make them of record.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date noted below.

Patricia O. Bryson

Patricia O. Bryson
Dated: June 9, 2004

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	10/802,136	
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		First Named Inventor	Shoichi NOMURA et al	
		Group Art Unit	2622	
		Examiner Name		
Sheet	1	1	Attorney Docket Number	04166/LH

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Inits*	Cite No ¹	Document Number	Kind Code ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam Inits*	Cite No ¹	Offc ³	Document Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Relevant Portion	T ⁶
	✓	JP	10-145582		CANON INC.	05-29-1998		*
	✓	JP	2000-332966	A	FUJI XEROX CO. LTD.	11-30-2000		*
	✓	JP	2001-167271	A	FUJI PHOTO FILM CO. LTD.	06-22-2001		*
			*English language Abstract only.					

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Place a check here if English translation is attached.

DATE MAILED: June 9, 2004